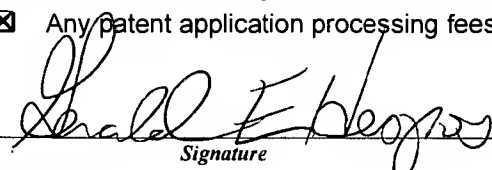
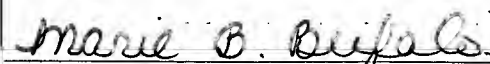
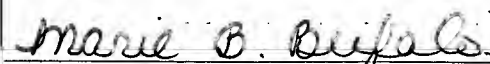
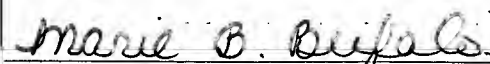


2123

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)				Docket No.																																											
Applicant(s): Eric Harwood				Faurecia-1																																											
Serial No. 09/997,645	Filing Date November 29, 2001	Examiner --	Group Art Unit --																																												
Invention: OPTIMAL RIB DESIGN METHOD FOR EXHAUST COMPONENTS																																															
<div>NOV 18 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</div> <p align="center"><u>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u></p> <p>Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.</p> <p>The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.</p> <p align="right">RECEIVED NOV 22 2002 Technology Center 2100</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th colspan="6">CLAIMS AS AMENDED</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT</th><th>HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR</th><th>NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT</th><th>RATE</th><th>ADDITIONAL FEE</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>TOTAL CLAIMS</td><td>8 -</td><td>20 =</td><td>0 x</td><td>\$18.00</td><td>\$0.00</td></tr><tr><td>INDEP. CLAIMS</td><td>2 -</td><td>3 =</td><td>0 x</td><td>\$84.00</td><td>\$0.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/></td><td>\$0.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</td><td>\$0.00</td></tr></tbody></table> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1030.</p> <p>A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.</p> <p> Signature</p> <p>Dated: November 12, 2002</p> <p>Gerald E. Hespos Atty. Reg. No. 30,066 Customer No. 001218 CASELLA & HESPOS LLP 274 Madison Avenue - Suite 1703 New York, NY 10016 Tel. (212) 725-2450 Fax (212) 725-2452</p> <table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 11-12-02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"> Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Marie B. Bufalo Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</td></tr></table> <p>cc:</p>						CLAIMS AS AMENDED							CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	TOTAL CLAIMS	8 -	20 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00	INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0 x	\$84.00	\$0.00	Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 11-12-02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.		 Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence		Marie B. Bufalo Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence	
CLAIMS AS AMENDED																																															
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE																																										
TOTAL CLAIMS	8 -	20 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00																																										
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0 x	\$84.00	\$0.00																																										
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00																																										
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00																																										
I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 11-12-02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.																																															
 Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence																																															
Marie B. Bufalo Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence																																															



Atty. Ref.: Faurecia-1

2/A
PMB

12-3-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Eric Harwood
Appl. No. : 09/997,645
Filed : November 29, 2001
For : OPTIMAL RIB DESIGN METHOD FOR EXHAUST COMPONENTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application.

RECEIVED
NOV 22 2002
Technology Center 2100

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

A) 1. A method for designing a component of an exhaust system, the method comprising:

designing an original configuration for the exhaust system component; converting the configuration to a three-dimensional mesh; deforming the three-dimensional mesh to define an optimal theoretical shape for the exhaust system component to optimize natural frequencies of the exhaust system component; defining the three-dimensional mesh as a plurality of intersecting flat surfaces; projecting a two-dimensional point cloud onto the optimal theoretical shape; smoothing intersections of the flat surfaces between the points of the projected point cloud to define curves with a bend radius substantially